

Reduction of Edge Labeled DAGs through Constant Folding¹

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We present intermediate results for a discrete problem arising in the automatic generation of derivative code. Consider a directed acyclic graph (dag) $G = (V, E)$ with vertex set $V = X \cup Z \cup Y$ where X is the set of minimal vertices, Z is the set of intermediate vertices, Y is the set of maximal vertices, and E is the set of edges (i, j) with $i, j \in V$. X , Y , and Z are pairwise disjoint. The vertices are numbered such that they induce a *dependency order*, $(i, j) \in E \Rightarrow i < j$. Each edge (i, j) is annotated with a label $c_{ji} \in \mathbb{R}$. The c_{ji} can be categorized as either *variable* or *constant*. G is transformed into a bipartite graph by using a sequence σ of edge (front and back) and vertex eliminations.

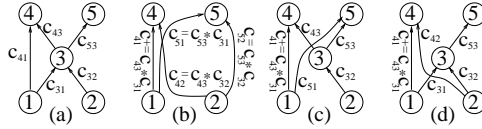


Figure 1: (a) G , (b) $G-3$, (c) $G-(1,3)$ (front) (d) $G-(3,4)$ (back)

Figure 1 illustrates the elimination techniques and the corresponding operations on the c_{ji} for a dag with $X = \{1, 2\}$, $Z = \{3\}$, $Y = \{4, 5\}$. This transformation of G into bipartite form represents the accumulation of a Jacobian in the context of automatic differentiation [1] where

G is a computational graph and the c_{ji} are local partial derivatives. Details on the elimination techniques can be found in [4]. The cost of an elimination sequence σ can be measured as the number M of scalar multiplications performed. The objective is to find a σ that minimizes the cost, that is, $M = \underline{M}(G)$. There is no known polynomial algorithm that solves this problem in general, necessitating the use of often costly heuristics [2].

Let $S_i = \{j \in V : (i, j) \in E\}$ and $P_j = \{i \in V : (i, j) \in E\}$. A path p_{ij} is a sequence of vertices $(i = k_1, \dots, k_l = j)$ such that $(k_\nu, k_{\nu+1}) \in E$ for $\nu = 1, \dots, l-1$. We define an X - j -separating vertex set X_j such that all paths p_{ij} for any $i \in X$ contain a $k \in X_j$. The following algorithm transforms *single expression use* (seu) dags \hat{G} defined by $|S_i| = 1 : \forall i \in Z$

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into bipartite form.

Algorithm 1 (elimination) *For a given \hat{G} do the following.*

(1) $\forall j \in Z$ in dependency order

(a) Compute a minimal X - j -separating vertex set \underline{X}_j .

(b) If $|\underline{X}_j| < |P_j|$, then generate the bipartite subgraph

$$\hat{G}_j = (\{j\} \cup \underline{X}_j, \{(i, j) : i \in \underline{X}_j\})$$

by vertex elimination in reverse dependency order.

(2) Eliminate the remaining vertices $\in Z$ in reverse dependency order.

The effect of Algorithm 1 is that all intermediate $j \in Z$ are eliminated at their lowest possible cost $|\underline{X}_j|$. It is a generalization of the respective algorithm introduced in [5]. Without formal proof we propose that Algorithm 1 yields $\underline{M}(\hat{G})$ for seu-dags.

Until now we have not made a distinction between operations involving variable vs. constant labels c_{ji} . For the constant c_{ji} we distinguish *trivial* edges ($c_{ji} \equiv \pm 1$) and the remaining *invariant* edges ($c_{ji} \equiv \text{const}$). Those can yield trivial multiplications by ± 1 or multiplications of two constants.

We refine the objective by allowing to discount such trivial multiplications. The complexity of any known algorithm for approximating optimal elimination sequences depends on $|E|$. Thus the effort can be lowered by reducing the size of G . We refer to this size reduction as *constant folding*. It needs to preserve optimality, that is, for the reduced graph G_r we must get $\underline{M}(G_r) \leq \underline{M}(G)$. For seu-dags we propose the following algorithm.

Algorithm 2 (seu constant folding) *For a given \hat{G} do the following.*

(1) Back eliminate all trivial edges.

(2) Back eliminate (j, k) if (j, k) and (i, j) are invariant $\forall i \in P_j$.

(3) Front eliminate all trivial edges (i, j) if $|P_j| = 1$ or $S_j \subseteq Y$.

Algorithm 2 can be proven to preserve optimality for seu-dags. It is not necessarily optimal for general dags as illustrated in Figure 2. Not counting trivial multiplications by one, the back elimination of the trivial edges (4, 3) and (5, 3) in (b) leads to an additional multiplication that is avoided in (c). Similar observations can be made for the other steps leading to the following modification for a general dag G that only imposes the single expression use property locally as a prerequisite for the respective target vertices of the edges to be eliminated.

Algorithm 3 (constant folding) *For a given G do the following.*

(1) Back eliminate all trivial edges (i, j) if $|S_i| = 1$ or $|P_i| = 1 \wedge P_i \subseteq X$.

- (2) *Eliminate j if (i, j) and (j, k) are invariant for all $i \in P_j$ and $k \in S_j$ and $(|S_j| = 1 \vee |P_j| = 1)$.*
- (3) *Front eliminate all trivial edges (i, j) if $|P_j| = 1$ or $|S_j| = 1 \wedge S_j \subseteq Y$*

The refinement of Algorithm 3 is the subject of ongoing research.

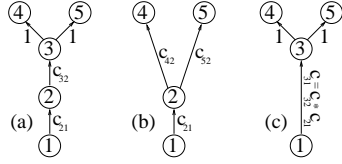


Figure 2: non-seu scenario

implements these algorithms in order to automatically generate an efficient adjoint of the MIT general circulation model [3].

All algorithms proposed here have their practical application in the ACTS project, see <http://www.autodiff.org/ACTS>. This collaborative effort between MIT, Rice University, and University of Chicago / Argonne National Laboratory covers algorithmic research in the field of automatic differentiation. One of the objectives is the development of a toolset that

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